(c) what are the reasons for such increase and what steps have been taken to bring down the prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The number of formulations, under price control and outside, in various pack sizes and dosage forms are very large and it has not been found feasible to compile the information for the specific period from the voluminous data. However there were only a very few formulations under price control where the price rise was over 30%.

Failure of tariff mechanism for price reduction of medicines

442. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government introduced Tariff Mechanism to achieve the objective of price reduction in medicines and boosting indigenous production;

(b) whether it is also a fact that tariff mechanism has proved to be a total failure and none of these objectives have been achieved; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps are being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Rationalisation of custom duty on bulk drugs, drug intermediates/raw materials and formulations is done from time to time to ensure easy availability of quality drugs and formulations at reasonable prices in the market and encourage the indigenous industry.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Bringing down the prices of bulk drugs

443. PROF. I.G. SANADI:

SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the Past one and a half year drug prices have registered over 100 per cent increases;

(b) whether it is a fact that important brands where undue increase has been taken place include Diovol forte Tabs, Quirex, Julex, Pesulin-O, Walamcin, Merckenzyme, Nolac mvoril Mephentune, Mexitil, Acitron, ASA-50, Calmpose Equlibruim, Triptomer, Dramamine, Garoin, Netnalan Tablets, Restinon, Triple Sulpha, Ampipen, Albudac, Nervitone, Anemido, Cebion, Selerouon, Asmapax Depot, Colistin, Fenox, Avil, etc.;

(c) whether it is a fact that these companies took price approval or submitted form 2-As to the Ministry and if so, what action was taken;

(d) whether it is a fact that monitoring by Ministry is totally ineffective and no ground rules have been evolved; and

(e) what are the guidelines or criteria evolved for monitoring the prices of bulk drugs and formulations and what steps have been taken to bring down the prices of above medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Price increases in cases of bulk drugs and formulations are regulated through the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987 and violations, if any, as and when noticed are dealt with under the said provisions.